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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

PUBLIC **AI Index: ASA 21/37/98**

21 April 1998

Further information on UA 27/98 (ASA 21/06/98, 27 January 1998) - Fear of arrest as POC

EAST TIMOR **Manuel Viegas Carrascalao**
Drs Francisco Lopes de Carvalho
Maria Quintao [f]

Three members of a newly formed, peaceful organization in East Timor, the Movement for Reconciliation and Unity of the People of East Timor (*Gerakan Rekonsiliasi dan Persatuan Rakyat Timor Timur*, GRPRTT), remain under threat of arrest because of their support for a peaceful settlement to the conflict in East Timor. If arrested, they would be considered by Amnesty International to be prisoners of conscience.

Several members of the GRPRTT were called for questioning in January 1998. Since March, three members have come under renewed investigation. The President of the GRPRTT, Manuel Viegas Carrascalao, has been named as a suspect and has now been questioned by the police on five occasions. It is believed that the police investigation of Manuel Carrascalao has been completed and there are fears that the police may lodge a legal case with the Prosecutors Office under Article 154 and 160 of the Indonesian Criminal Code. Under Article 154 "..the public expression of feelings of hostility, hatred or contempt toward the government" is punishable by up to seven years' imprisonment. Article 160 prescribes a maximum of six years' imprisonment for "inciting" others to disobey a government order or to break the law.

Francisco Lopes de Carvalho has also been named a suspect under the same charges. He has been questioned on five occasions and is to be questioned again on 22 April.

Unlike most other East Timorese detained for questioning by the military or the police, the two men have so far been accompanied by lawyers during the interrogation at Police Headquarters in Dili, the capital of East Timor.

Maria Quintao is also being investigated by the police but has not yet been formally summonsed.

On 18 April, several items of the GRPRTT were confiscated by the police including a fax machine, a type writer and documents.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/ airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or English or in your own language:
- urging the authorities to end the investigation into the peaceful actions of the GRPRTT and to drop the charges against the movement's leadership;
- urging the authorities to allow East Timorese the right to engage in peaceful political activities without fear of charges or arrest.

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APPEALS TO:
Chief of National Police
Lt. Gen. Dibyo Widodo
Kapolri
Markas Besar Kepolisian RI
Jalan Trunojoyo 13
Jakarta Selatan
Indonesia
Telegrams: Kapolri, Jakarta, Indonesia
Faxes: + 62 21 720 7277
Salutation: Dear Lt-General

Copies to
Governor of East Timor
Abilio Jose Osorio Soares
Gubernur KDH TK.1 Timor Timur
Jl Infante De Henrique
Dili, East Timor
Indonesia
Telegrams: Gubernur Abilio Soares, Dili, East Timor
Faxes: 62 390 22557

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 June 1998.